

# STFVV

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Serving Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Frederick County, Harford County, Howard County, and Montgomery County

#### In this issue...

Fact-finding trip to Virginia Authority representatives inspect the King George County Landfill in Virginia. Page 2

#### WasteLines

Announcements and news keep up-to-date with waste management activities in the region. Page 6

**New SWANA Board** Members Elected SWANA and MDE meeting held in Dickerson. Page 6



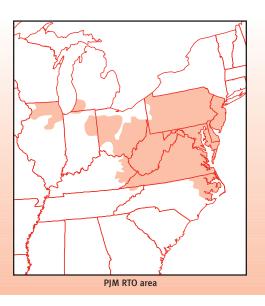
King George Landfill Tour - Page 2

## The Authority Joins the PJM Regional Transmission Organization

The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority has joined the PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. regional transmission organization. The PJM Interconnection grid system manages the delivery of electricity to all or part of 13 states and the District of Columbia, serving some 51 million people. PJM (which stands for Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland – the states in which it began) operates the largest centrally dispatched electric grid system and the largest wholesale electricity market in the world.

Membership in PJM will allow the Authority to provide the electricity it generates at its existing and any new refuse power plants to customers on the PJM grid including local government agencies and buyers groups. Presently, the electricity generated at the Authority's Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility is sold to power companies under multi-year contracts. Joining PJM will open the market for this electricity to many more entities, giving the Authority more flexibility in the marketing of this critical commodity. Additionally, membership in PJM will give the Authority a vote on PJM policies affecting small electricity generators. A special thanks is given to South River Consulting, who provided valuable assistance and guidance in the application process.





The Authority looks at this year's accomplishments and prepares for the future.

Learn more inside this issue... page 3

**Authority Annual Report Letter** 

### Annual Visit to Virginia's King George Landfill

In October, representatives from Anne Arundel County, Howard County and the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority made their annual visit to the King George County Landfill in Virginia.

Waste Management leases the site from King George County and is responsible for the development and management of the landfill. The 628-acre site includes 291 acres that will be developed as landfill. To date, 111 acres have been used for waste disposal. The landfill has been in operation for 10 years and receives an average of 4,400 tons of waste per day. If this disposal rate continues, the county

estimates that 22 years of MSW disposal capacity remain. Each year a new 12-18 acre cell is opened for accepting MSW. Currently, two small landfill cells are being developed and liners are being installed (see photo). Landfill gas is collected and burned in three on-site flares at a rate of 4200 cfm. Waste Management is investigating the possibility of building a 16-megawatt power plant at the site that could power 16,000 homes.

The Authority contracts with Waste Management for the acceptance, transportation and disposal of municipal solid

waste (MSW) delivered by Anne Arundel and Howard Counties to the Annapolis Junction Transfer Station in Jessup, Maryland. The purpose of the annual visit is to inspect the landfill, review operations and discuss regulatory compliance. Jeff Jenkins, director of the Solid Waste and Recycling Department for King George County and Rick Guidry, site manager for Waste Management, conducted the tour.



## Northeast Maryland Waste

#### Message from Executive Director Robin Davidov

As we reflect on the accomplishments of fiscal year 2006 and look ahead to the future, the need for flexibility in our operations has moved to the forefront. As the business climate changes and new technologies appear, we must remain able to adapt to our ever-changing world.

2006 saw the Authority laying a solid groundwork to ensure the achievement of our future goals, while also ensuring the best use of our current technologies, facilities and people. I've focused on the highlights of some of our key operations from 2006, and addressed the ways we are preparing for the issues we will face in the future.



#### Waste-to-Energy

A number of initiatives were accomplished, and some continue, at the Authority's waste-to-energy facilities, including measures to improve current operations and ways to increase efficiency, cost savings and revenues.

At BRESCO, Wheelabrator changed the maintenance schedule in order to improve efficiency and increase throughput at the facility.

The Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility continued to recycle 85% of its ash to conserve the County's landfill space. The Authority signed a contract with Select Energy that will reduce electricity purchase costs. The Authority and Aberdeen Proving Ground's public works staff began planning for an expansion to the Waste-to-Energy Facility. The expansion will provide renewable energy to the Army.

In addition to operating these facilities as efficiently as possible, we continue to look for ways to increase their profitability in the future. In 2006, the Authority sold the electricity it will generate in fiscal years 2008 through 2010 for

\$84.1 million. We are also continuously examining the electricity sales market, looking for new revenue opportunities.

#### **Facility and Equipment Upgrades**

As the municipalities we serve continue to grow, our facilities must be improved and, at times, expanded to keep pace with the increased demands we face. The Authority upgraded and improved several key facilities in 2006, and has plans for more improvements in the future.

The Authority is in the process of ensuring that needed upgrades to the Compost Facility are completed. These improvements will include miscellaneous machinery, software and structures throughout the facility.

Facility improvements at Baltimore City's Northwest Transfer Station were completed. The Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility's air pollution control retrofit project met the federal and state schedule for start-up.

Expansion plans are in the works for the convenience area of Howard County's Alpha Ridge Landfill. This expansion is currently in the design stage, and the

Authority is continuing to manage the design of the expansion.

The Montgomery County Transfer Station, Rail Transportation System and Resource Recovery Facility benefited from several equipment upgrades in 2006. Additional rail cars were purchased to allow the facility to handle ever-increasing volumes, the rail yard was improved, and a rail car mover was purchased.

#### **Getting the Word Out**

Keeping the public informed of our operations and the role they play in what we do has been a key concern in 2006, and it will continue to be of high importance in the years to come. Educating the public on the benefits of such processes as recycling, landfill gas recovery and waste-to-energy technology is important. Authority staff made presentations to several environmental groups, as well as professional groups. Tours of our facilities are popular and the demand continues to increase. Our facilities have hosted delegations from as far away as China, and as close as local schools.

The Authority has undertaken several key initiatives to better communicate with

## Disposal Authority Annual Report Letter

the public. First and foremost among these are our web sites, nmwda.org and www.mdrecycles.org, the only businessto-business recycling guide in Maryland. The design, development and maintenance of the web sites are treated as a dynamic process, allowing updates and new content to appear as needed.

Simply having operational web sites doesn't mean that they will accomplish their purpose. We recognize that we must drive traffic to the sites, and we engaged in several programs to do this. The mdrecycles.org web site's visibility was enhanced by promotion in trade publications, business association newsletters and direct mail. These efforts have resulted in a solid number of visitors to our business-to-business recycling assistance web site, mdrecycles.org: an average of 300 each weekday.

#### Looking to the Future

Planning for the challenges and opportunities we will face in the coming years is essential in order to provide the region with both quality and efficiency. Options are being explored for expansion and improvements to facilities.

We are presently assisting Baltimore City with several initiatives that will have an impact on the future, including the development of future landfill cells. The Authority procured demolition debris recycling and disposal services for up to 100,000 tons of materials. This material would otherwise have taken up valuable space in the City's MSW landfill. The Authority is also assisting its members in developing landfill gas-to-energy projects.

The Authority has several legislative and regulatory initiatives underway. In addition to constantly monitoring state and federal legislation and regulations, we are encouraging DGS and other agencies to purchase green power in future energy procurements. Such a requirement would have a positive effect on both the environment and the Authority's participating jurisdictions' energy generating facilities.

Our staff of highly specialized professionals is constantly searching for creative solutions to our present challenges and those that lie ahead. Through their continued hard work and diligence, along with the support of our board members, the Authority is in an excellent position to face the challenges of next year and beyond.







#### **WasteLines**

#### **Biosolids Beauty Contest**

Baltimore City's Back River Water Treatment Facility won the Biosolids Beauty Contest at this summer's WFOA meeting.

## **Energy Recovery Operations Enjoys a Safe Year**

On June 29, Energy Recovery Operations, Inc. (EROI) of Joppa, the Authority's operations contractor, achieved 365 consecutive workdays - over 85,000 work hours - without a single lost-time injury.

Energy Recovery's staff of 45 operates the Harford County Waste-to-Energy Facility in Joppa. The facility processes about 120,000 tons of municipal solid waste generated each year in Harford County. Energy is recovered from the waste and is transformed into high-pressure steam. The steam is delivered to the U.S. Army in the Edgewood area of

the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, replacing the need to burn millions of gallons of fuel oil each year.

Energy Recovery attributes the success of its safety program to its team concept and the philosophy that the key to any good safety program is the active participation of all employees (see photo below).

## More Companies Visit the Authority's Commercial Recycling Website

mdrecycles.org, the Authority's business-to-business website for recycling material continues to show a steady increase in the amount of hits it receives. One hit is equivalent to one person accessing the website. The recycling directory continues to be a popular destination for visitors. The most popular queried items in the directory are electronics, metal, and paper.

The success of mdrecycles.org is attributed to the extensive advertising the Authority has done through radio, print, outdoor media and exhibiting at fairs and trade shows. The Authority continually receives requests from businesses to list their recycling services. This is a good sign as we continue to increase our efforts to promote business and residential recycling.

## **18th Annual Garbageman Appreciation Day**

BRESCO hosted its 18th annual Garbageman Appreciation Day at the BRESCO Facility on October 5. This year BRESCO provided lunch and a gift duffle bag as a way of thanking waste collectors for the vital service they provide. This year's event occurred on a warm and sunny fall afternoon, as many waste collectors enjoyed their lunch in the shady picnic area at the waste-to-energy facility.



## **Joint SWANA and MDE Meeting**

The Fall 2006 MDE Recycling and Solid Waste Professionals and the SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter's Annual Meeting and Elections were held in a joint session in the Gothic Barn in Dickerson.

More than 50 attendees met in the Gothic Barn, located a few steps from the resource recovery and compost facilities. The barn, once privately owned, has been beautifully restored and serves as a community center and meeting facility for area residents.

Congratulations to the new SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Board of Directors (see chart). Meeting attendees toured the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility and the Compost Facility.

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Vice President	Mehal M. Trivedi (Frederick County)
Secretary	Douglas E. Sawyers (Malcolm Pirnie)
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Chapter Director	Thomas E. Houska (DE Solid Waste Authority)
<b>Alternate Chapter</b>	Evelyn Tomlin (Howard County)
Director & Directo	r
Director	Robert DeMarco (Anne Arundel County)
Director	Frank R. Henderson (Harford County)
Director	Robin D. Ennis (NE MD Waste Disposal Authority)
Director Director	Robin D. Ennis (NE MD Waste Disposal Authority) Martin Sanford (CDM, Inc.)
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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.....** Robin B. Davidov

**MEMBERS** ......................James M. Irvin *Chairman* 

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